

# WIMBLEDON BOOKFEST

Young Writers' Competition 2023

JUNIOR Guidelines

## Home



This year we inspired by family, friendship and community and our theme is **'Home'**.

We are asking entrants to think about what **'Home'** means to them as an inspiration and starting point for their **story or poem**. What does home represent to you? Perhaps it is a place where friendships are made, where food is cooked and where neighbours can laugh together and have fun. Is home local or in a far-away country? Is it a temporary haven or a long-loved place of respite and peace?

It could be a hidden or secret place like a bird's nest found up high in the trees or a burrow nestled safety underground. Or, perhaps for you, **'Home'** is not a place at all but something or someone which represents something special and helps you to feel most like your true self.

The winning entries will be published in the *Wimbledon BookFest 2023 Anthology of Stories and Poems*.

**For inspiration why not try?**



## Categories

There are three Key Stage/Age Groups for junior and primary schools. There will be separate winners in each age range for **stories** and **poetry**.

**Key Stage 1 - years 1 & 2**

**Key Stage 2 - years 3 & 4**

**Key Stage 2 - years 5 & 6**

There is also a separate category for **SEN Schools** taking part.

**Teacher selection:** Teachers are asked to select & submit a **maximum of 3 entries per category** for each Key Stage/Age group specified above. (i.e., 3 poems and 3 short stories are allowed per Key Stage). Please ensure that entrants' work is their own original creation.

**Word Count:** Maximum words: 500 Minimum words: 100



## Criteria

The theme '**Home**' can be interpreted in whichever way the writer chooses – be it serious, humorous, moving, or thrilling – the key is that the author has enjoyed crafting the piece and has illustrated where the theme has taken their imagination. The title of the story or poem does not need to be 'Home' though the content should be inspired by it. The writer will not be penalised for grammar and spelling; however, the best way is to plan work before writing it and to check and edit the text before submission.

Please encourage students to work independently without the help of parents and teachers. Innovation and creativity are important so do not be tempted to guide too much in terms of structure/opening sentences.

## What the judges look for:

\*Imagination      \* Creativity & originality      \* Energy & life      \* Structure: beginning, middle & end

Our judges are a diverse team of authors, writers, journalists and educationalists.

## Entering

Entries **MUST** be typewritten and be in WORD format (no PDFs/pictures please) using the supplied Wimbledon BookFest Entry Template.

Entries should then be submitted on the supplied template and **emailed to: Laura Byrne, School Manager - [education@wimbledonbookfest.org](mailto:education@wimbledonbookfest.org)**  
*Note: Entries may be refused if not supplied in required format.*

**CLOSING DATE: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023, 5pm**

